

File name HB0613_SMFSC_Lawson_FAV

My Name is James Lawson; I live in Accokeek, Maryland. I represent the Southern Maryland Fair Skies Coalition (SMFSC). The Southern Maryland Fair Skies Coalition was formed to fight airplane air pollution from the 72,000 airplanes that fly at low altitudes over Accokeek, Fort Washington, and Oxon Hill on the way to Regan Airport.

I am here to testify in favor of HB0613.

The respiratory illness of the people living in Accokeek, Fort Washington, Oxon Hill, and Brandywine is worse than most of Prince George's County. We can conclude that air quality is responsible for most of the respiratory illnesses in the county.

The Prince George's Government with the University of Maryland published a document titled "The 2019 Prince George's County COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT".

This documented research indicates that respiratory illness of the people living in Accokeek, Fort Washington, Oxon Hill, and Brandywine is worse than most of Prince George's County. We can conclude that it is likely that air quality is responsible for respiratory illness.

There are three leading causes of air pollution in the county:

1. Five power plants in the southern part of the county and adjacent Charles County
2. Indian Head Highway and the 100,000 cars that use the highway daily
3. The 72,000 low flying airplane that flies of the area each year

The Legislature can't do anything about Indian head highway or the 72,000 low flying airplanes. The Legislature can do something about prohibiting the construction of more power plants in the southern part of the county and the county at large.

The Legislature can pass the "Prince George's County – Coal– and Gas–Fired Generating Stations – Prohibitions (Prince George's County Stop Environmentally Unjust Coal and Gas Plants Act of 2021)" .."Prohibiting the Public Service Commission from issuing a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of a coal- or gas-fired generating station if any part of the generating station will be located in Prince George's County; and prohibiting a person from operating a coal- or gas-fired generating station if any part of the generating station is located in Prince George's County and the Commission issued a certain certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of the generating station."

Prince George's County has more than its shares of power plants and the resulting adverse health effects from air pollution. We are asking for fair treatment when it comes to locating power plants. We are requesting that no more power plants are permitted to be constructed in Prince George's County in the future.

Thank you for allowing me to address the Legislature

James Lawson

<https://www.southernmarylandfairskiescoalition.com/>